Conversion of Central Jail, Goa into a National Monument

80. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Ajwada Fort Jail (Central Jail) Goa played a historic role in Goa Liberation Movement;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to convert the same inio a national monument and inscribe on its walls the history of the Liberation Movement togetherwith the names of the heroes of the great struggle; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Goa have issued a notification on 11.7.2002 under section 3(1) of the Goa, Daman and Diu Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1978, to declare the Jail as a protected monument, and against which three objections have been received. So far no action has been taken by the Government of Goa to issue the follow up final notification.

Setting-up of Tourist Police Force

81. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether.it is a fact that his Ministry has requested all the State Governments and UT Administrations to set up Tourist Police Force for the safety of tourists in their territorial jurisdiction particularly foreign tourists who complain of harassment, duping and even molestation which tarnish the image of the country abroad; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of each State and UT in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a)and (b) Yes, Sir. The Governments of Kerala, J&K, Rajasthan, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have set-up Tourist Police Force for the safety of the foreign

tourists. Governments of Delhi, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Chandigarh are in the process of setting up of Tourist Police Force. Some of the States/UTs e.g. Mizoram, Daman & Diu, Assam, Sikkim, Pondicherry, Lakshadweep have not felt the necessity of setting up a separate Tourist Police Force and have instructed the regular police force to look into safety and security of the foreign tourists.

Funds allocated forTourism in Andhra Pradesh

82. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Tourism Master Plan of Andhra Pradesh prepared by World Tourism Organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of Central assistance provided so far and proposed to be provided to the State for the implementation of the Master Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Government of Andhra Pradesh has obtained the services of World Tourism Organisation for preparing Perspective Tourism Plan for the State which includes an action plan for development of tourism regions and circuits, infrastructure development, education and training programmes, marketing programmes, etc.

(c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned Rs. 9.64 crores for 41 projects as Central financial assistance during the years 1998-99 to 2001-02 for the development of tourism in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Nagarjuna Sagar has been identified for destination development and Pochumpalli for Rural Tourism development.

Comprehensive plan for development of Lakshadweep Island

83. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state: